



Tetra Tech EM Inc.

200 E. Randolph Drive, Suite 4700 ♦ Chicago, IL 60601 ♦ (312) 856-8700 ♦ FAX (312) 938-0118

5/19/03 I.I

May 19, 2003

Mr. Steve Faryan
On-Scene Coordinator
Emergency Response Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604

Subject: Letter Report
Flying J Truck Stop Site
Gary, Lake County, Indiana
Technical Direction Document No. S05-0304-013
Tetra Tech Contract No. 68-W-00-129

Dear Mr. Faryan:

The Tetra Tech EM Inc. (Tetra Tech) Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) has prepared this letter report in accordance with the requirements of Technical Direction Document (TDD) No. S05-0304-013, which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) assigned to START. The scope of this TDD was to respond to a product spill at the Flying J Truck Stop (Flying J) site in Gary, Lake County, Indiana; document site conditions; and prepare this letter report. Enclosure 1 of this letter report contains site figures, and Enclosure 2 contains a photographic log.

The Flying J site is located on Grant Street in Gary, Indiana (see Figure 1 in Enclosure 1). The site is in a ~~primarily~~ commercial and agricultural area and is bounded by Grant Street to the east and by drainage control berms and then open fields to the north, west, and south. The site is owned by Flying J and is used as a truck and car refueling station. The site is located just south of Interstate 94 and is one of the busiest refueling stations in the country. Flying J sells more than 4.5 million gallons of fuel per month.

On April 24, 2003, U.S. EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Steve Faryan and START member Chad Gibson visited the Flying J site and met with Steve Lindgren, Flying J manager, to discuss a product release at the site. Mr. Lindgren stated that on March 16, 2003, Flying J personnel noticed that a manhole in the northwestern part of the site (see Figure 2 in Enclosure 1) was overflowing with product that appeared to be diesel fuel. The manhole provides drainage for a parking lot, and several underground pipes run away from the manhole. The pipes are not connected to any public or private drainage system; they distribute surface water throughout the subsurface.

Flying J retained Timmers Engineering (Timmers) as its environmental contractor to perform remedial activities at the site. Between March 16 and April 24, 2003, Flying J pumped more than of 14,000 gallons

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of product (assumed to be diesel fuel) and 30,000 gallons of water from the manhole. Flying J collected groundwater samples from all the groundwater monitoring wells on the site. Sample analytical results showed no concentrations detected above regularly observed levels. Pressure tests were performed on all tanks and underground pipes, and no loss of pressure was observed. Flying J periodically pumps product from the manhole into an oil-water separator system of two frac tanks. The product is pumped into the first frac tank, where the product is allowed to separate (on April 24, 2003, approximately 1 to 2 feet of product was present in the first tank). Water in the first frac tank then flows from the bottom into the second frac tank.

Marathon and Wolverine Pipeline own one and two pipelines, respectively, that run from east to west just north of the site. In the vicinity of these pipelines, the City of Gary Department of Sanitation has been conducting sewer installation activities. Both pipeline owners were contacted about the ongoing situation at the Flying J site and the ongoing sewer installation activities. Dyer Construction(Dyer), a City of Gary Department of Sanitation contractor, was observed conducting sewer installation activities east of Grant Street and was approached by U.S. EPA and START. Dyer personnel stated that they had performed sewer installation south of the Flying J site from March 12 through 24, 2003, and exploratory trenches north of the site in the vicinity of the pipelines on March 4 and 5, 2003; they did not notice any product or anything unusual during these activities.

Representatives of Marathon, Brian Knipper, and Wolverine Pipeline, Dave Goodman, visited the site to investigate the potential relationship of the product release to their pipelines. Marathon informed U.S. EPA that Marathon's pipeline was not currently in use as a product line and was charged with nitrogen. Wolverine Pipeline was using one of its pipelines but had not noticed any loss of product or drop in pressure in the line over the last month. Both pipeline companies stated that their pipelines were far enough away from the sewer installation activities to not be affected by them. U.S. EPA contacted Gas City, a truck refueling station across the Grant Street from the site, to inquire whether it had experienced any recent releases. The Gas City manager informed U.S. EPA that there had been no recent product releases at Gas City.

Future actions agreed to by Flying J include the following:

- Continued pumping of product from the manhole
- Cleanup of stained material around the manhole and frac tanks
- Cleanup of stained soils in the wetland area west of the manhole
- Placement of absorbent boom in the wetland to prevent product runoff to the wetland during rain events
- Exploratory trenching along pipes running away from the manhole
- Any additional site investigation activities required to identify the source of and clean up the product

Flying J will coordinate all future site cleanup activities with Indiana Department of Environmental Management representative Ralph McCullers unless site conditions warrant future U.S. EPA involvement.

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START does not anticipate any further activities under the TDD. If you have any questions or comments regarding this report or need additional copies, please contact me at (312) 946-6475 or Thomas Kouris at (312) 946-6431.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chad Gibson', with a stylized, flowing script.

Chad Gibson

Tetra Tech START Project Manager

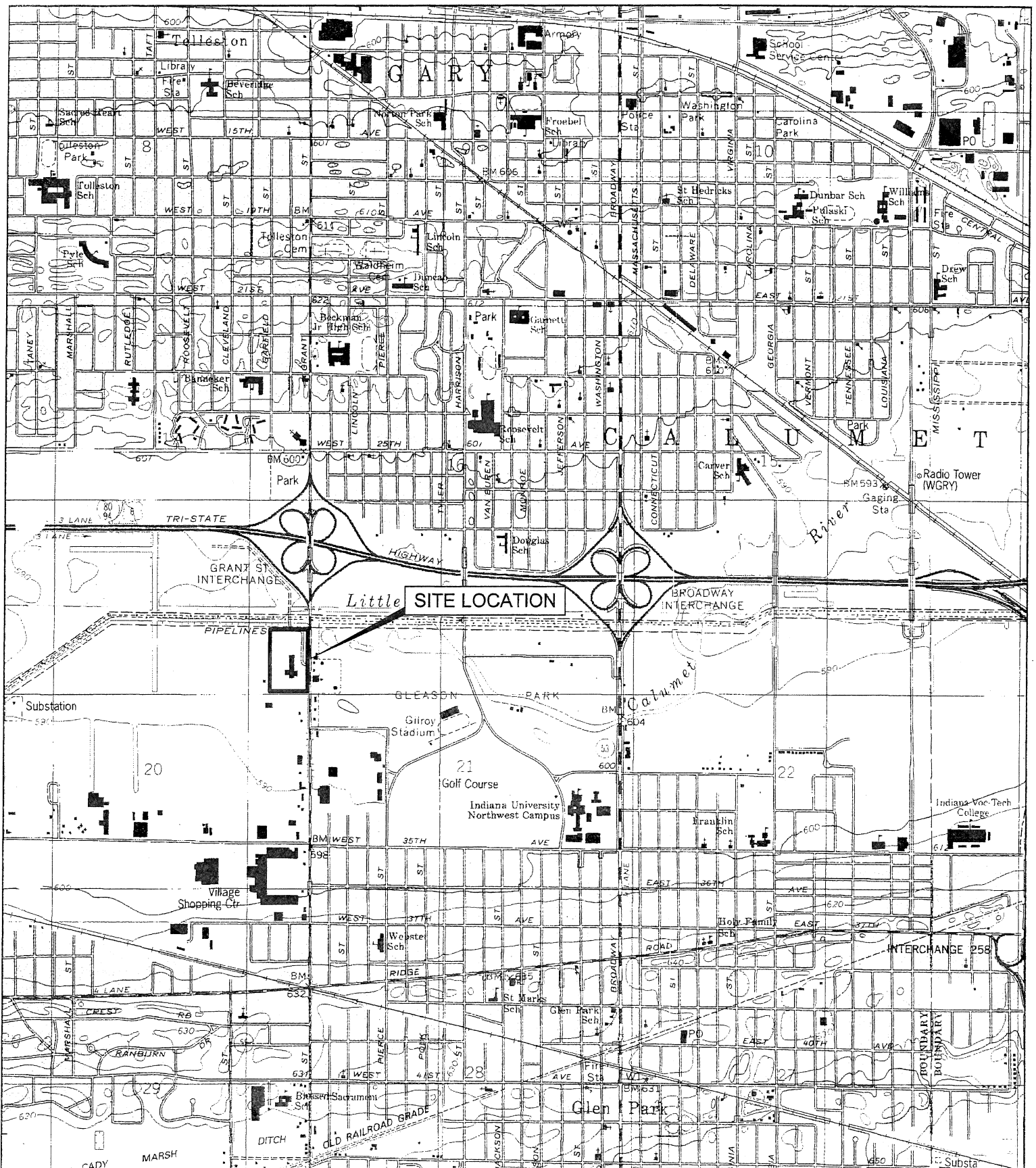
Enclosures (2)

cc: Lorraine Kosik, U.S. EPA START Project Officer
Thomas Kouris, Tetra Tech START Program Manager

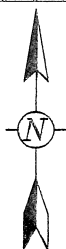
ENCLOSURE 1

SITE FIGURES

(Two Sheets)



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SCALE IN FEET

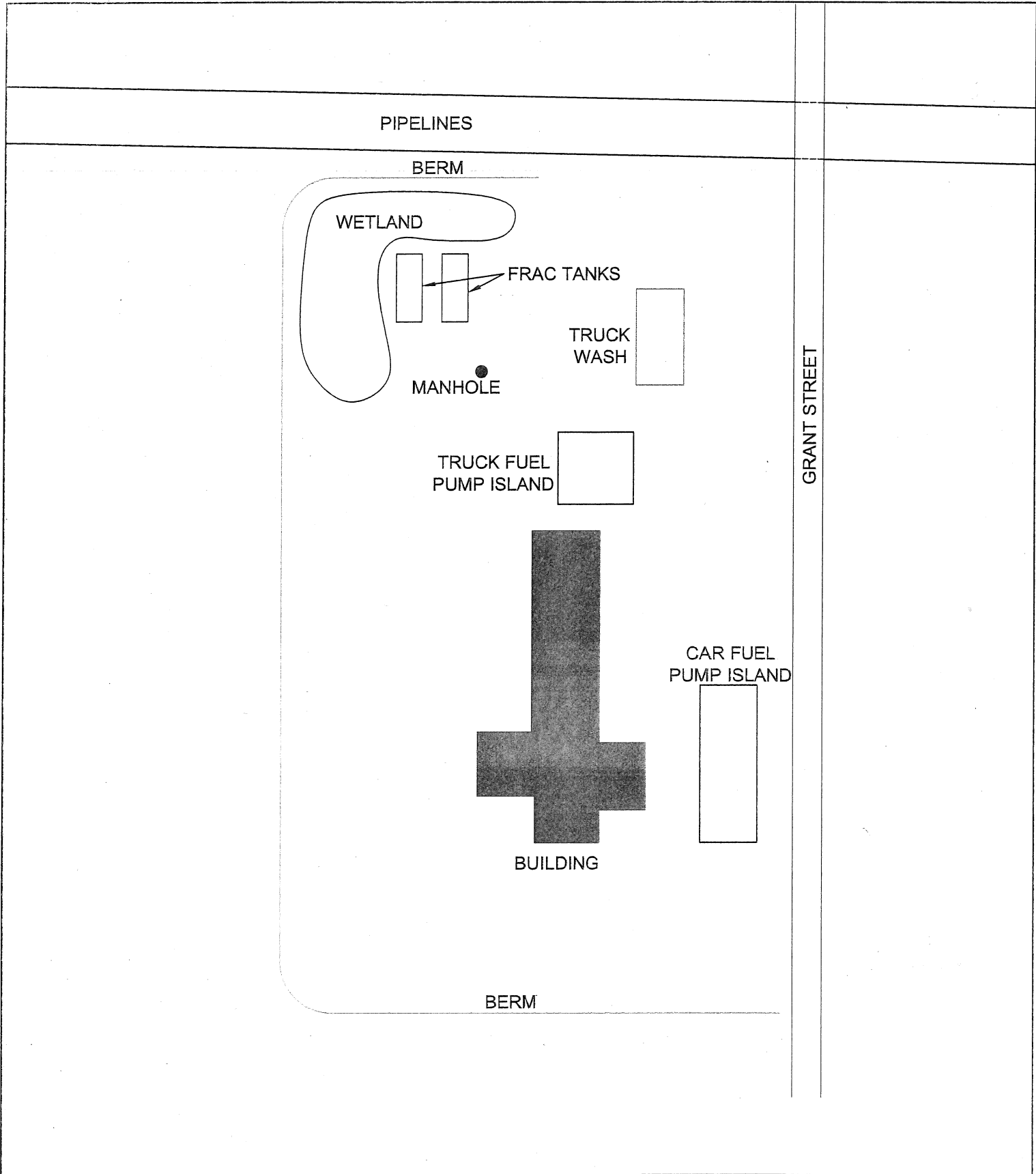


FLYING J TRUCK STOP
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
TDD NO. S05-0304-013

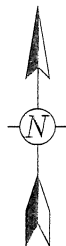
FIGURE 1
SITE LOCATION MAP

 Tetra Tech EM Inc.

SOURCE: MODIFIED FROM USGS, GARY, INDIANA, QUADRANGLE.



0 25 50
SCALE IN FEET



FLYING J TRUCK STOP
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
TDD NO. S05-0304-013

FIGURE 2
SITE LAYOUT MAP

ENCLOSURE 2

PHOTOGRAPHIC LOG

(Five Pages)



Photograph No.: 1
TDD No.: S05-0304-013
Location: Flying J Truck Stop (Flying J) site
Subject: Frac tanks used as oil-water separator system

Orientation: Northwest
Date: April 24, 2003



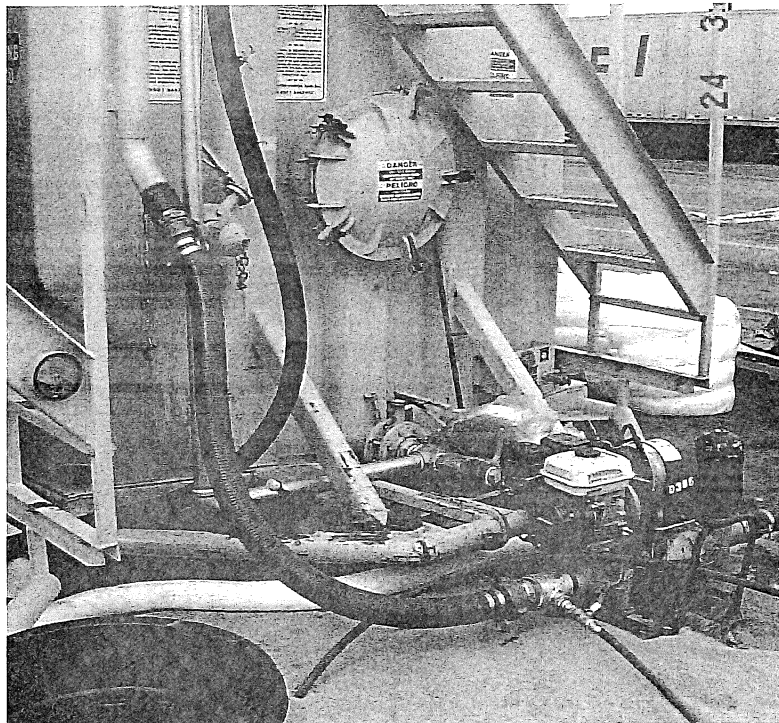
Photograph No.: 2
TDD No.: S05-0304-013
Location: Flying J site
Subject: Manhole with product at surface

Orientation: Downward
Date: April 24, 2003



Photograph No.: 3
TDD No.: S05-0304-013
Location: Flying J site
Subject: Manhole with absorbent boom to absorb overflow

Orientation: Northwest
Date: April 24, 2003



Photograph No.: 4
TDD No.: S05-0304-013
Location: Flying J site
Subject: Pump and oil-water separator system

Orientation: Northeast
Date: April 24, 2003



Photograph No.: 5
TDD No.: S05-0304-013
Location: Flying J site
Subject: Staining in wetland lying west of manhole.

Orientation: Northwest
Date: April 24, 2003



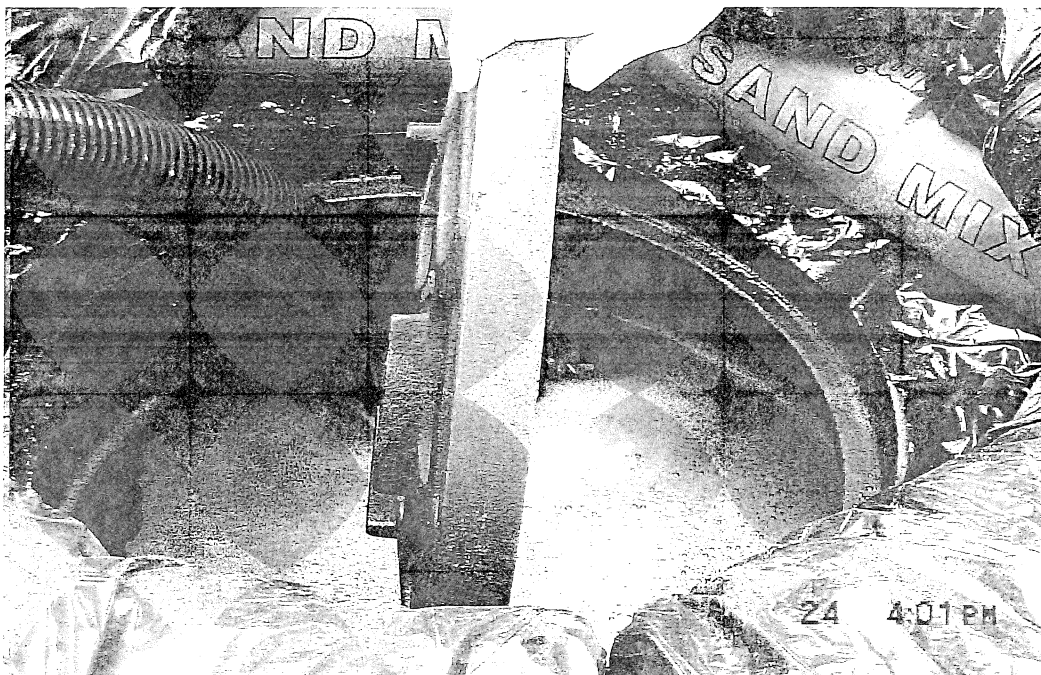
Photograph No.: 6
TDD No.: S05-0304-013
Location: Flying J site
Subject: View of manhole from wetland area

Orientation: East
Date: April 24, 2003



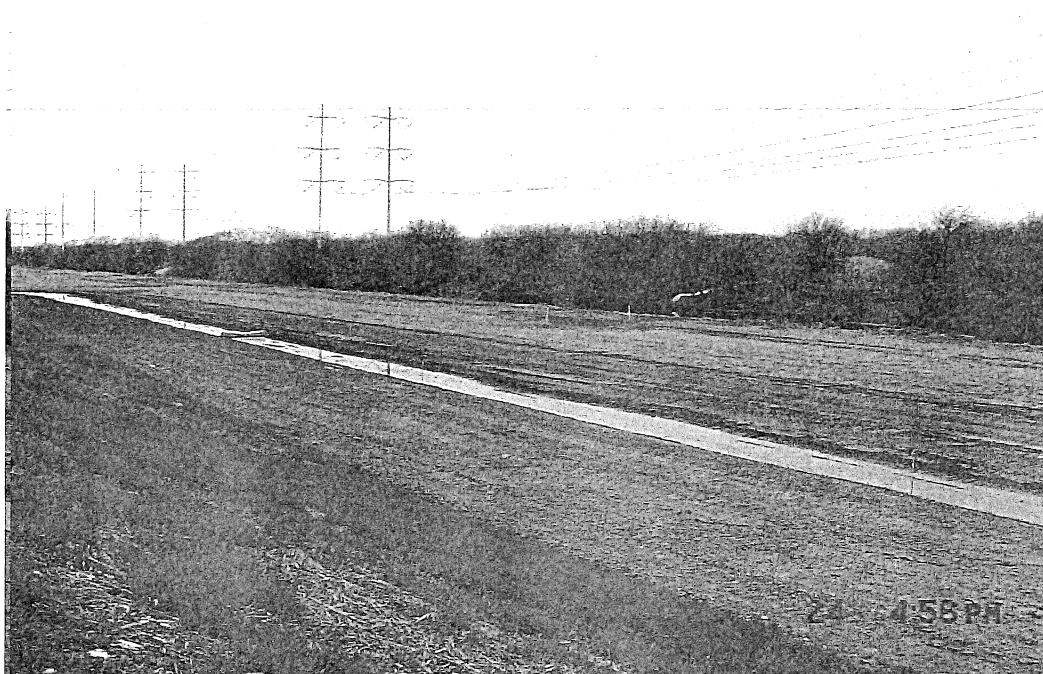
Photograph No.: 7
TDD No.: S05-0304-013
Location: Flying J site
Subject: Bailer used to gauge depth of product in manhole

Orientation: Downward
Date: April 24, 2003



Photograph No.: 8
TDD No.: S05-0304-013
Location: Flying J site
Subject: Pumping product from manhole to oil-water separator system

Orientation: Downward
Date: April 24, 2003



Photograph No.: 9

TDD No.: S05-0304-013

Location: Flying J site

Subject: View of location of exploratory trenches and pipelines north of site

Orientation: Northwest

Date: April 24, 2003